UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Trademark Office

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

March 21, 2000

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Fish & Richardson 225 Franklin Street Boston, MA 02110-2804

In re Application of:

James W. Overbeck, et al. Application No.: 09/079,324

Filed: May 14, 1998

Attorney Docket: 09604/012001

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on your petition received in the Patent and Trademark Office on August 3, 1998, and treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2)(ii) to convert the above identified application to a Provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 111 (b) and 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2).

The petition is granted.

The application will be processed in the Office of Initial Patent Examination (OIPE) as a Provisional application under 35 U.S.C. 111(b) and 37 CFR 1.53(b)(2), including the assignment of a new Provisional application number.

The Provisional application serial number is <u>60/183,021</u> the filing receipt for the Provisional application number will be communicated to applicant by OIPE in due course.

Betty L. Robinsøn, Program Assistant Office of Initial Patent Examination

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